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COLLECTING IN THE FAR NORTH.—Part II.

II. THE STIKINE RIVER.

By H. F. WICKHAM, Iowa City, Iowa.

Not having a tent I used an old quilt to make a shelter large enough to crawl under at night in the vain hope of being able to keep out the mosquitoes by fastening down the end after I had entered. In the morning I used to find numerous little beetles on the outside, evidently attracted by some peculiarity in the color or odor of my domicile, since they occurred rarely on other shelters in the camp; among these captures may be enumerated the following species: *Porrhodites fenestralis*, *Lothrimæum* sp., *Olophrum porcum*, *Pediacus fuscus*, *Henoticus serratus*, *Cænoscelis cryptophaga*, *Corticaria serricollis* and *Podabrus scabra*. The summit of the hill, which is divided by the cañon furnished a number of *Cryptohypnus nocturnus*, found beneath a log.

After a few days had been spent at the cañon, a party of Indians came up the river in canoes on their way to the Tahltau village above Glenora, and with them I engaged passage as far as the latter place. At one of our stops I managed to find a few

specimens of *Aegialia rufescens* under a piece of wood nearly buried in sand, but not much else of interest occurred, excepting *Opisthius Richardsonii*, a specimen of which I washed out of the bank.

Glenora was reached at last, and, through the kindness of the Inspector of Customs, I was soon installed in the building formerly used as the Custom House. This place was a thriving and busy little town during the days of the gold excitement, but is now almost deserted, except by a few miserable and diseased Indians who manage to exist on fish and berries, with what little additional food they can procure of the white traders near by. The country here proved very different from what I had seen on the lower river, rising in terraces from the stream, the sides and tops of the benches being covered with a growth of conifers and shrubbery, but not of so impenetrable a character as near the coast. The insects found proved quite different, as a comparison of lists will show.

Close to the river, under rubbish and drift-wood, were found several species of *Nebria* in small numbers. *N. metallica*, *hudsonica*, *Sahlbergi* and *Mannerheimii*, with *Opisthius Richardsonii*, *Bembidium planatum*, *planiusculum*, *striola* and *lucidum*, and *Platyrus piceolus*. In damp spots under dung occurred *Platy-tethus americanus*, *Tachinus semirufus* and some Aleocharini. Beneath the bark of a log lying near the water I got a series of *Omalium pusillum*, *Dryocates affaler* and *Polygraphus rufipennis*. Up on the terrace, where the soil was dry, the fauna was of a different character, and here I got *Bembidium monelum*, *Harpalus cautus* and *rufimanus*; under burnt logs a few *Cytilus trivittatus* were seen, beneath sound ones I took one example each of *Platycerus depressus* and *Adimonia externa*. In fungi, besides a lot of Staphylinidæ, I took a few *Hallomenus punctilatus* and *Tetrotoma concolor*. Beating flowers yielded a few *Centorhynchus* and a few single specimens of *Leptura subargentata*, *Buprestis Langii* was seen once on the rafters of a cabin.

Sickness and the advance of the season impelled me to leave after a short stay here, and I took the opportunity offered by the return of the Indians to go back with them. Our return trip was made in short time and with little labor, having the current and often the wind in our favor, we reached the mouth of the river after only seventeen hours of actual travel.